

California Department of Transportation
Grass Lake Maintenance Station
Highway 97
Grass Lake, California

Notice of Proposed No Further Action related to petroleum discharges.
Comment Period ends **June 14, 2003**

Site History: The California Department of Transportation Grass Lake Maintenance Station is located on Highway 97, South, in Siskiyou County. Four tanks were removed from the site in September 1992. These tanks consisted of 3,000 and 550-gallon gasoline tanks, and 3,000 and 550-gallon diesel tanks. The tank removal report does not contain any description of the condition of the four tanks at the time of their removal. The report does state “no contamination was detected in the tank excavations”. Four hundred and forty cubic yards of soil was excavated and stockpiled on-site.

Results of lab analyses of all seven soil samples collected from the excavation showed no analytes detected above the reporting limits. Five soil stockpile sample results showed concentrations of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPHg) ranged from less than 1.00 mg/Kg to 57 mg/Kg. Concentrations of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as diesel (TPHd) ranged from less than 1.00 mg/Kg to 56 mg/Kg. Toluene (0.19 mg/Kg) was detected in only one sample. Concentrations of xylene ranged from less than 0.005 mg/Kg to 2.24 mg/Kg.

A permit from Siskiyou County was obtained in 1993 for aeration of the stockpile. After five years of on-site aeration, the soil was approved for use as backing in low shoulder areas along State Highway 97 from Post Mile 8.5 to Post Mile 19.5.

Subsurface Investigation: In December 2002, ten years after the initial tank removals, three soil borings were drilled at the site. Borings B1 and B2 were in the immediate vicinity of the former USTs and the third boring, B3, was located downgradient of the former UST areas. Eight soil samples were collected every five feet until groundwater was encountered. Six of the eight samples were analyzed for the constituents of concern. The two remaining samples (SB1-5 and SB1-10) were not analyzed because they were collected in the top ten feet that consisted of fill material. Groundwater was encountered in boring B1 at an approximate depth of 25 feet below ground surface (bgs) and in borings B2 and B3 at approximately 15 feet bgs. No odor was detected in the groundwater. Soil and groundwater samples were analyzed for TPHg, TPHd, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes and MtBE. Laboratory analyses results for both the soil and groundwater samples indicated no analytes were detected above the stated limits.

Lithology and Hydrology: Lithology ranged from gravelly fill in boring B1 to silty clay in B2 and B3. Boring B1 consisted of dry sand and gravel for fill to approximately 14 feet below ground surface (bgs). Between 14 feet and the total depth (TD) of the boring (25 bgs) alluvium was observed as a moist silty, gravelly clay with a gravel (basalt) lens between 20 to 21 feet bgs. The lithology in borings B2 and B3 consisted of moist alluvium with silty clay observed to the bottom of the borings (approximately 17 feet bgs). The soil was saturated at the bottom of both

borings. Gravels were observed dispersed with the alluvium throughout each boring, ranging from one-quarter to two inches in diameter.

Sensitive Receptor Survey: The Department of Water Resources reported no wells are within the Grass Lake Maintenance Station area, Township Number: Section 18, Township 44 North, Range 3 West.

Conclusion: The primary sources, two gasoline tanks and two diesel tanks, were removed in 1992. A secondary source, the original excavated soil stockpile, was remediated and removed from the site. The results of lab analyses of soil and groundwater samples collected in December 2002 at the site indicate no petroleum hydrocarbon contamination is present at the site.

Proposed Action: No further action is proposed for the site.

MtBE Status: No MtBE was detected in soil or groundwater samples.

Unless comments are received or new information is presented, Regional Water Board staff plan to concur with no further action upon conclusion of the comment period. Please contact Ron Allen by telephone at (707) 576-2848 or email at aller@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov for all issues concerning the Grass Lake Maintenance Station site.